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SUBJECT: DAILY SUMMARY OF JAPANESE PRESS 01/15/09

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- (1) Editorial: Incoming administration to shift from "military power" to "smart power"

ASAHI (Page 3) (Full)
January 15, 2009

"The U.S. cannot solve the most pressing problems on our own, and the world cannot solve them without the U.S." With this expression, Hillary Clinton, who has been designated to be secretary of State by

the incoming Obama administration, indicated that the U.S. would work together with the rest of the world.

President-elect Barack Obama is making preparations in a rush to start tackling a host of challenges, including the economic crisis, immediately after assuming office. During a Senate hearing on her nomination before the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, Clinton explained the basic approach to diplomacy that will be taken by the incoming administration.

The U.S. is now facing a variety of challenges, including the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan and the threats of terrorism and weapons of mass destruction. Senator Clinton also listed such challenges as global warming, infectious diseases, and poverty in developing countries. In handling these tasks, she said that the U.S. would use "smart power," a combination of military power and economic and cultural power.

Her remarks declare farewell to the Bush administration's foreign policy approach, which played up "the logic of power" while reiterating such buzzwords as "axis of evil" and "democratization of the Middle East."

The incoming administration's strategy is to increase the number of friends and decrease the number of enemies in a bid to accomplish its goals. The new administration plans to make more use of the UN, as shown by President-elect Obama's decision to promote the UN ambassadorship to a cabinet-level position. We welcome that new administration will break away from the Bush administration's unilateral diplomatic approach.

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Specifically, Clinton promised to ratify the Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty (CTBT) and make efforts to advance negotiations on a post-Kyoto mechanism to prevent global warming.

In the election campaign, Clinton criticized Obama, who has no experience in foreign affairs, as "naive." But she expressed her resolve in the hearing to take the lead in promoting the Obama administration's foreign policy. She indicated a willingness to hold direct talks with Iran, which is proceeding with nuclear weapons development.

Clinton has an overwhelmingly high profile, so she will surely draw much attention on the international stage as the "face" of American diplomacy.

The first test facing her is the issue of Middle East peace. Critical voices have already been heard mainly from Islamic countries about the lack of response by Obama to the devastation caused by conflict in the Gaza Strip. In a bid to bring about a ceasefire, the U.S., as a fair mediator, should pressure Israel to stop its escalating military offensive against the Palestinians as soon as possible.

In U.S. policy toward Asia, the North Korean nuclear issue must be addressed on a priority basis. Clinton stressed that the Obama administration, while maintaining the framework of six-party talks, would apply pressure on the North by threatening to suspend supplies of heavy oil if necessary. She suggested that the Obama administration would take a combination of soft and tough approaches.

He called the Japan-U.S. alliance the "cornerstone" of U.S. policy toward Asia. On China, she suggested that the nation should become a complete and responsible participant in the international community.

Arguments on whether the new administration would place emphasis on Japan or China are meaningless. It is possible for Japan and the U.S. to build a solid alliance for the first time by coming up with ideas on how to jointly handle regional and global issues, while involving China in their efforts.

(2) Questionnaires to candidates for Lower House election:

UN-centered diplomacy has yet to be established in DPJ

MAINICHI (Page 5) (Full)
January 9, 2009

U.S. President-elect Barack Obama will take the oath of office to become the President of the United States on Jan. 20, when the Mainichi Shimbun is still conducting this survey. With changes underway in the international community, Japan's foreign policy will likely become a campaign issue in the upcoming snap election for the House of Representatives.

In the current survey, when Lower House candidates were asked what was important to protect Japan's security, 39 PERCENT said: "A peace diplomacy under which Japan should cooperate with its neighboring countries;" 37 PERCENT, "The Japan-U.S. alliance;" 10 PERCENT, "United Nations-centered diplomacy."

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By party, 76 PERCENT of candidates of the ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) and 59 PERCENT of the New Komeito candidates said: "The Japan-U.S. alliance." Of the candidates of the Democratic Party of Japan (DPJ), 28 PERCENT said: "Peace diplomacy;" 26 PERCENT, "UN-centered diplomacy;" and 19 PERCENT, "Japan-U.S. alliance." The figures show that DPJ President Ichiro Ozawa's argument that the use of force in overseas missions led by the United Nations based on UN resolutions is constitutional has not been fully accepted in the main opposition DPJ. Almost all the candidates from the Japanese Communist Party (JCP) and Social Democratic Party (SDP) replied that peace diplomacy is important.

On the extension of the Maritime Self-Defense Force's refueling mission in the Indian Ocean, 41 PERCENT supported, while 58 PERCENT opposed. By party, 98 PERCENT of the LDP candidates and 100 PERCENT of the New Komeito candidates favored the extension. Of the DPJ candidates, 95 PERCENT were against it. All the JCP and SDP candidates opposed it. It seems that the candidates for the next general election answered the questions in accordance with their own party's assertions in consideration of a fierce battle between the ruling and opposition camps over the new Antiterrorism Special Measures Law, which was amended on Dec. 12, 2008.

In order to resolve the issue of North Korea's abductions of Japanese nationals, 41 PERCENT said that priority should be given to dialogue and 43 PERCENT asserted that emphasis should be placed on pressure.

However, 64 PERCENT of the LDP candidates favored pressure, while 16 PERCENT preferred dialogue. The percentage of the DPJ and New Komeito candidates who favored pressure topped that of those who preferred dialogue. In contrary, the JCP and SDP candidates preferred dialogue rather than pressure.

As a result, the answers to the above three questions by the male candidates were in line with the trend of these by all the respondents, while 60 to 70 PERCENT of the female candidates answered that they opposed the extension of the refueling mission, favored peace diplomacy, and preferred a dialogue with North Korea.

(3) Poll on Aso cabinet, political parties

TOKYO SHIMBUN (Page 2) (Full)
January 12, 2009

Questions & Answers

(Figures shown in percentage. Parentheses denote the results of the last survey conducted Dec. 6-7 last year.)

Q: Do you support the Aso cabinet?

Yes 19.2 (25.5)
No 70.2 (61.3)
Don't know (D/K) + no answer (N/A) 10.6 (13.2)

Q: (Only for those who answered "yes" to the previous question)

What's the primary reason for your approval of the Aso cabinet? Pick only one from among those listed below.

The prime minister is trustworthy 13.6 (15.7)
Because it's a coalition cabinet of the Liberal Democratic Party and the New Komeito 12.6 (9.6)

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The prime minister has leadership ability 2.7 (1.6)
Something can be expected of its economic policies 10.1 (4.9)
Something can be expected of its foreign policies 3.7 (3.5)
Something can be expected of its political reforms 3.3 (3.5)
Something can be expected of its tax reforms 3.6 (6.4)
Something can be expected of its administrative reforms --- (2.6)
There's no other appropriate person (for prime minister) 45.8 (49.2)
Other answers (O/A) 3.0 (2.0)
D/K+N/A 1.6 (1.0)

Q: (Only for those who answered "no" to the first question) What's the primary reason for your disapproval of the Aso cabinet? Pick only one from among those listed below.

The prime minister is untrustworthy 18.2 (19.8)
Because it's a coalition cabinet of the Liberal Democratic Party and the New Komeito 4.7 (4.5)
The prime minister lacks leadership ability 22.6 (18.7)
Nothing can be expected of its economic policies 28.8 (28.3)
Nothing can be expected of its foreign policies 0.9 (1.4)
Nothing can be expected of its political reforms 8.6 (6.5)
Nothing can be expected of its tax reforms 2.4 (2.4)
Nothing can be expected of its administrative reforms 6.5 (5.2)
Don't like the prime minister's personal character 5.6 (11.1)
O/A 0.5 (0.3)
D/K+N/A 1.2 (1.8)

Q: The government has presented a second supplementary budget to the Diet. This extra budget includes a 2-trillion-yen cash handout plan. Do you appreciate this payout plan?

Yes 23.7
No 70.5
D/K+N/A 5.8

Q: If there is 2 trillion yen to spend, how do you think the money should be used? Pick only one from among those listed below.

Cash handout 3.3
Tax break 11.2
Public investment 1.5
Job security 26.3
Social security (pension, healthcare, etc.) 42.0
Declining birthrate 10.7
O/A 0.5
D/K+N/A 1.5

Q: There has been a sharp increase in the number of people losing their jobs since last year due in part to the discontinuation of contracts with temporary workers. What do you think should be done first to improve the employment problem? Pick only one from among those listed below.

The government should tighten restrictions through such measures as prohibiting the manufacturing industry from using temporary labor 15.8
Companies should make efforts to change the status of irregular workers to regular workers 30.8
Workers should cooperate in work sharing to secure many jobs even though their pay goes down 45.4
O/A 0.9

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D/K+N/A 7.1

Q: The House of Representatives' current term is up until September this year. When would you like the House of Representatives to be dissolved for a general election?

Right away 33.7

Around April after the budget for fiscal 2009 is approved in the Diet 32.7

Around June when the ordinary Diet session ends 12.5

Wait until the current term expires in September without dissolving the Diet 15.1

D/K+N/A 6.0

Q: Would you like the present LDP-led coalition government to continue, or would you otherwise like it to be replaced with a DPJ-led coalition government?

LDP-led coalition government 30.5 (33.1)

DPJ-led coalition government 51.4 (45.4)

D/K+N/A 18.1 (21.5)

Q: Which political party are you going to vote for in the next House of Representatives election in your proportional representation bloc?

Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) 26.3 (27.4)

Democratic Party of Japan (DPJ or Minshuto) 39.7 (38.3)

New Komeito (NK) 3.1 (3.9)

Japanese Communist Party (JCP) 5.9 (4.9)

Social Democratic Party (SDP or Shaminto) 3.1 (2.1)

People's New Party (PNP or Kokumin Shinto) 1.0 (0.6)

Reform Club (RC or Kaikaku Kurabu) 0.1 (0.1)

New Party Nippon (NPN or Shinto Nippon) 0.2 (---)

Other political parties, groups --- (---)

D/K+N/A 20.6 (22.7)

Q: When comparing Prime Minister Taro Aso and DPJ President Ichiro Ozawa, which one do you think is more appropriate for prime minister?

Taro Aso 22.1 (33.5)

Ichiro Ozawa 46.4 (34.5)

D/K+N/A 31.5 (32.0)

Q: (Only for those who gave "Taro Aso") What is the primary reason for your choice of Prime Minister Aso? Pick only one.

Because he's trustworthy 9.5 (12.1)

Because he's with the LDP 42.4 (30.5)

Because he has leadership ability 5.1 (5.6)

Because something can be expected of his policies 11.7 (13.8)

Because he's appropriate as Japan's leader on the diplomatic front 10.5 (14.7)

O/A 15.1 (12.5)

D/K+N/A 5.7 (10.8)

Q: (Only for those who gave "Ichiro Ozawa") What is the primary reason for your choice of DPJ President Ozawa? Pick only one.

Because he's trustworthy 6.5 (5.5)

Because he's with the DPJ 23.6 (24.2)

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Because he has leadership ability 20.6 (20.8)

Because something can be expected of his policies 36.9 (32.3)

Because he's appropriate as Japan's leader on the diplomatic front 1.7 (5.5)

O/A 8.8 (7.5)

D/K+N/A 1.9 (4.2)

Q: Which political party do you support?

Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) 27.5 (28.9)

Democratic Party of Japan (DPJ or Minshuto) 31.1 (28.7)

New Komeito (NK) 2.2 (3.3)

Japanese Communist Party (JCP) 3.6 (4.9)

Social Democratic Party (SDP or Shaminto) 2.4 (1.9)

People's New Party (PNP or Kokumin Shinto) 0.4 (0.3)
Reform Club (RC or Kaikaku Kurabu) --- 0.1
New Party Nippon (NPN or Shinto Nippon) 0.2 (---)
Other political parties, groups --- (---)
None 30.8 (30.4)
D/K+N/A 1.8 (1.5)

Polling methodology: The survey was conducted Jan. 10-11 across the nation by Kyodo News Service on a computer-aided random digit dialing (RDD) basis. Among randomly generated telephone numbers, those actually for household use with one or more eligible voters totaled 1,477. Answers were obtained from 1,025 persons.

(4) SDF gains confidence from overseas missions; Political use of SDF being questioned

MAINICHI (Page 2) (Abridged slightly)
January 15, 2009

Takahiro Takino, Takashi Sudo

The atmosphere surrounding joint exercises between the Ground Self-Defense Force and the U.S. military has changed over the last several years. The joint exercises began in 1981. The GSDF is now able to carry out joint drills that are based on scenarios that are far more complex than those used in early years.

In December 2008, a joint on-the-map command post exercise was conducted at the GSDF's Camp Asaka. The drill was practical, requiring thinking about from the evacuation of residents to the protection of cultural assets based on a scenario in which a ballistic missile was fired at Japan and chemical warfare broke out. "Finally, we have become able to discuss operations with the U.S. military," a senior GSDF officer said. SDF personnel have begun feeling confident.

Last summer, Takashi Araya, 49, a former colonel and the first special operations group chief, retired from the GSDF. Araya built from scratch the first special force that was established in 2004 by using a trial-and-error method. The sudden retirement of the senior officer who had played a role in the GSDF's forefront has created a stir, though it was not made public.

Araya, currently a martial-arts teacher in Tokyo, keeps mum about why he retired from the GSDF. At the same time, he does not conceal his sense of discomfort about the future of the organization to which he belonged to for a quarter century.

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He entered an educational institution of the U.S. Army, the most powerful in the world. He learned that the operation of a special force reflected political will, based on the country's unique values. Military troops of each country undergo rigorous training to acquire combat skills and psychological and information warfare ability.

Does Japan have such a national will? How should (a special force) be introduced? He racked his brain. He went to Iraq, as well. Experiencing a taste of the battlefield, he came to realize that SDF personnel did not think with their minds because they were taught to do things by the book and that U.S. troops were trained through actual warfare to use their brains to take action.

He also came to believe that with a slight shift in its thinking, the GSDF could make greater contributions to the world. He said: "In terms of religion, Japanese people are lenient. Given that, Japanese troop can be of greater help in conflict zones than the U.S. military. All (the SDF) has to do is to have concrete operations and skills suitable for objectives."

The Japan-U.S. alliance has a history of over half a century. The SDF, which was established with the aid of the United States, the superpower, is said to be in maturity militarily.

"The relationship is such that we can tell the U.S. military what it

doesn't want to hear," a senior Maritime Self-Defense Force officer noted. The SDF's shift to forces with a strong voice began with the deployment of minesweepers to the Persian Gulf in 1991 and is based on the operation of troops on such overseas missions as UN peacekeeping operations in Cambodia and Mozambique and reconstruction assistance in Iraq.

A symbolic event occurred last fall. The United States called for a halt to the Japan-Russia joint search and rescue exercise that began in 1998 between the MSDF and the Russian Navy. The step was regarded as part of (U.S.) sanctions on Russia that launched military intervention in Georgia in August. A Foreign Ministry official said: "We felt uncomfortable with the call about the exercise of such a level. The Department of Defense was forceful."

The MSDF reacted strongly. It was fixated on carrying out the exercise with the country that used to be a threat to Japan and with which it took 10 years to build relations of trust to carry out such. The SDF tenaciously persuaded the U.S. Navy, and the (Japan-Russia joint exercise) took place in October. Reflecting on the event, a senior MSDF officer said: "It required courage to reject the U.S. request, but it was absolutely necessary for the stability of the region."

The unusual decision was reported to the Prime Minister's Office via the Foreign Ministry. Another MSDF officer explained: "It seems that the conclusion was reached through direct talks between the MSDF and the U.S. Navy. There is a line that must not be crossed." Military commentator Tetsuo Maeda took this view: "After the end of the Cold War, there has appeared a trend to do things between armed forces to increase readiness. But a question remains about to what extent Japan is allowed to do such in relation to its Constitution."

It is natural for the SDF, which has become confident through overseas missions, to have its own wishes regarding operations. How should they be used? Political wishes are being questioned.

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(5) New Japan's message to America!: Alliance and self-support;
Mountain of global-scale challenges to exchanges of talented people:
Elites to be nurtured on grass-roots level

MAINICHI (Page 2) (Full)
January 15, 2009

"New York is my hometown. Inuyama is my adopted home," said Bianchi Anthony in fluent Japanese, smiling in a friendly manner. The fifty-year old Anthony is a former vice chair of the Inuyama City Assembly in Aichi Prefecture. Inuyama is an old castle town with a population of 75,000.

When he was an English teacher at a municipal middle school in the city, he wrote a supplementary textbook so that Japanese and foreign teachers could cooperate more in helping students improve their English conversation ability. However, the school's administration was reluctant to adopt it, saying there was no precedent.

Bianchi, who once worked at New York City Hall, ran for a seat on the Inuyama city assembly in 2003. He was elected easily. He was able to have his supplementary textbook adopted in 2005. Middle schools in Inuyama achieved results 10 points higher than the national average in achievement tests conducted by a private organization in 2007.

Bianchi came to Inuyama on the JET (Japan Exchange and Teaching) program. Under that program, the government invites young foreigners who had graduated from universities in English-speaking countries to Japan for a year to work as assistant English teachers at local middle and high schools. The aim is to improve English education in Japan and bring an international perspective to local communities. The program started in 1987. About 50,000 people from 54 countries have taken part in the program. More than half have been Americans.

When the program was started, trade disputes between Japan and the U.S. were at their peak. Executive Director Nobuo Ishihara of the

Research Institute for Local Government, who proposed this plan when he was the chief of the Secretariat of the Internal Affairs Ministry, revealed that it was also intended to reduce Japan's foreign currency reserve.

The main agenda of Japan-U.S. relations during the Cold War were such bilateral issues as security arrangements and trade disputes. Participants in personnel exchanges at that time were mainly politicians and bureaucrats. The GARIOA (Government Appropriation for Relief in Occupied Areas) Fund and the Fulbright Program produced (eminent persons,) such as former Ambassador to the U.S. Yoshio Okawa and former Vice Finance Minister for International Financial Affairs Yukio Gyoten. Late former Prime Minister Keizo Obuchi and former U.S. Ambassador to Japan Foley became regular participants in parliamentary exchanges, which the Japan Center for International Exchange (JCIE) has been hosting since 1968.

Change came after the Cold War -- a time when the Japanese economy entered a stable growth phase and when China began to rise. The research report issued by the JCIE includes the following data. The number of U.S. Congress-related persons (legislators and staff members) who visited Japan on programs hosted by the private sector has been declining since the mid-1990s. For staffers, the flow of visits has dropped 80 PERCENT over the past five years. Only nine

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U.S. members of Congress visited Japan in 2006. This number is less than half of those who visited China. Among think-tanks based in Washington, the number of Japan experts is now less than one-third the number of China experts.

Concern is mounting that exchanges among elites are declining. Global-scale challenges, such as environmental measures, have appeared in the 21st century. Broad-based private-sector cooperation that goes beyond the bilateral and government-to-government framework is being sought.

Director Sadaaki Numata of the Japan Foundation Center for Global Partnership (CGP) said: "Japan-U.S. relations will not deepen only through intellectual exchanges between elites of the two countries. Exchanges on the grass-roots and civic society levels are also important."

More than 20,000 Americans have come to Japan with the JET program. Some of them are now contributing to Japan's internationalization or engaging in diplomacy between the two countries. Marc Dillard (39) at the American Embassy in Tokyo wanted to become a diplomat when he realized Japanese and American people shared the same values. He thought he could work as a bridge between the two countries. Among diplomats at the American Embassy, about 20 of them have taken part in the JET program. Three of them are now serving as section heads.

Moves to use former JET participants are now under way. Yukio Tada, director of the Washington Office of Sojitsu Corporation, who has lived in the U.S. for 15 years, is helping them find jobs at Japanese companies, setting up a non-governmental organization. The United States-Japan Conference on Cultural and Educational Interchange will also look into a way to use former JET participants for bilateral cooperation in the private sector.

The late U.S. Ambassador to Japan Mike Mansfield, who served in the post from 1977 to 1989, once called relations between Japan and the U.S. the most important bilateral relationship in the world, bar none. Persons who will take a major role in the new bilateral alliance in the age of globalism will be nurtured on the grass-roots level, as well.

(6) Prime Minister's schedule, January 14

NIKKEI (Page 2) (Full)
January 15, 2009

07:58
Took a walk around his private residence in Kamiyama-cho.

11:28

Met at Kantei Deputy Chief Cabinet Secretary Uruma, joined later by Chief Cabinet Secretary Kawamura and deputy chief cabinet secretaries Matsumoto and Konoike. Kawamura, Konoike and Uruma remained. Kawamura remained.

13:10

Handed written official appointment to Parliamentary Secretary for the Cabinet Office Okamoto, attended by Kawamura.

15:27

Met with Ambassador to International Organization in Geneva Kitajima.

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16:08

Met with Philippine Transport and Communications Minister Mendoza, followed by IMPULSE Chairman Masato Uemura, joined by Upper House members Masaji Matsuyama and Yoshifumi Matsumura.

16:56

Met with NHK Management Committee Chairman Yoshiro Komaru.

17:29

Attended meeting of ambassadors to Middle Eastern and African countries and meeting of ambassadors to international organizations.

18:17

Met with Russia's Federal Assembly's Federation Council Chairman Mironov.

19:11

Dined with LDP Ibaraki chapter head Yamaguchi at Japanese restaurant Tsuruyoshi in Akasaka district attended Senior Deputy Secretary General Hayashi.

20:43

Met with secretary at Bar "Golden Lion" in Imperial Hotel.

22:54

Returned to his private residence.

(Corrected copy) Japan hijacked by the Murayama Statement

SANKEI (Page 13) (Abridged slightly)
January 14, 2009

By Hidetsugu Yagi, professor of Takasaki City University of Economics

The furor over the controversial essay written by former Air Self-Defense Force Chief of Staff Toshio Tamogami has escalated. There is now a review going on of the selection of the instructors for courses on historical and state views started during Tamogami's tenure as head of Joint Staff College. The lecture courses in question are extra courses at the college, a training institute for Self-Defense Force brass officers. The (Japanese Communist Party's organ daily) Akahata and the like have persistently charged that the college was slanted toward selecting conservative individuals to teach the courses.

In reaction to the accusation, Defense Minister Yasukazu Hamada said on Nov. 21: "It is difficult to conclude that the selection of the lecturers was appropriate. We would like to review the courses." Admiral Takashi Saito, Chief of Staff, Joint Staff, also told on Dec. 16 members of the Upper House Foreign and Defense Affairs Committee who had toured the college: "Some courses lack a sense of balance. We must consider the selection of the lecturers and the contents of the lectures."

In addition to the selection of lecturers in courses for rank-and-file SDF members, the contents of those courses, and even the courses at the National Defense Academy are being examined to determine if they are in line with the Murayama Statement (of apology for World War II). Reportedly, leftist political parties

eager to scrutinize the matter are examining the selection of all writers for SDF-related magazines and newspapers and what they wrote.

The Defense Ministry and the SDF are being taken over by the Murayama Statement. Under such circumstances, will SDF personnel be able to maintain their morale?

I am concerned that such a trend might spread to public education, as well. The Basic Education Law that was revised two years ago stipulates to "cultivate a mind that respects tradition and culture and that loves the nation and homeland that have fostered them." The teaching guidelines were revised, albeit insufficiently, in March 2008.

Once the Murayama Statement ties the hands of the government bureaucracy, children at public school would have to be taught that "during a certain period in the not too distant past, Japan, following a mistaken national policy, advanced along the road to war, only to ensnare the Japanese people in a fateful crisis, and, through its colonial rule and aggression, caused tremendous damage and suffering to the people of many countries, particularly in Asia." This would naturally be reflected in the textbook screening process, as well.

What the Basic Education Law calls for might turn into pie in the sky. The ideal could turn into mere shell as a result of the Murayama Statement taking precedence over the Basic Education Law.

Even if the Constitution is amended in the near future and the SDF is defined properly, the SDF would by analogy remain in line with the Murayama Statement as long as it is upheld. Such a body would be a far cry from the national army of a normal country.

Even though the Murayama Statement's origin raises some issues, the statement is the government's view. Under the banner of the Murayama Statement, specific forces press the government and related organizations to underpin the government's view. Because it is the government's view, people cannot openly object to the Murayama Statement even thorough they know that it has some problems. They have to back down.

In Japan, there are principles that are convenient for specific forces. The Kono Statement on the so-called comfort women issue, the neighboring country clause of school textbook screening, the Convention on the Rights of the Child, the Basic Law for a Gender-Equal Society are some examples. (Specific forces) present their assertions by pushing those principles to the forefront.

The origins and the bases of those principles, including the Murayama Statement, present problems, and government-connected people are aware of that. Because all those principles were authorized by the government, people connected with the government must back down when those principles are put forward. The series of problems deriving from the Tamogami essay has made clear that such exist.

As long as such principles exist, amendments to the Basic Education Law and the Constitution would be subject to them. Oddly enough, those principles, taking precedence over the Constitution and the Basic Education Law, would turn themselves into dead letters.

To prevent that, there is no other way but to make those principles relative. The only way to prevent the country's education, administration, diplomacy, and education from being taken over by those principles is to make clear that the roots and the bases of the principles which specific forces are putting up as their banners have some problems and to reexamine them fundamentally. Those principles must not be monopolized by specific forces.

